

**INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SITUATION REPORT  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2005 – 0530 MDT  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS LEVEL 1**

**CURRENT SITUATION:**

Nationally, initial attack activity was light with 32 fires reported. One new large fire was reported in the Southern California Area. Very high to extreme fire indices were reported in Arizona and Texas.

**SOUTHWEST AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:**

BART, Tonto National Forest. This fire is seven miles northeast of Scottsdale, AZ in chaparral. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Philbin) is assigned. Some interior creeping and isolated smokes were reported.

SALERO, Tucson District, Arizona State. This fire is eight miles northwest of Patagonia, AZ in grass, mesquite and scrub oak. Moderate fire behavior was reported.

VULTURE, Phoenix Field Office, Bureau of Land Management. This fire is 11 miles south of Wickenburg, AZ in grass. No new information was reported. This will be the last report unless new information is received.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
BART	AZ	TNF	14,534	95	5/20	359	12	9	3	0	520K
SALERO	AZ	A3S	1,500	60	5/18	70	4	20	0	0	60K
VULTURE	AZ	PHD	450	80	UNK	23	1	0	0	0	NR

**ALASKA AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:**

ISLAND LAKE, Tok Area Forestry. This fire is 45 miles southeast of Northway, AK in spruce and tundra. A Type 2 Incident Management Team (Jandt) is assigned. Minimal fire activity was reported due to precipitation received in the fire area.

TRACY AVENUE, Kenai Kodiak Area Forestry. This fire is nine miles northeast of Homer, AK in timber. Fire behavior was minimal.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
ISLAND LAKE	AK	TAS	1,300	65	5/21	213	8	5	4	0	838K
TRACY AVENUE	AK	KKS	5,400	96	5/18	37	2	0	1	1	1.5M

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA INCIDENTS / LARGE FIRES:

APRICOT, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protections, Fresno-Kings Unit. This fire is nine miles southwest of San Joaquin, CA in grass. No further information was received.

INCIDENT NAME	ST	UNIT	SIZE	% CTN	EST CTN	TOTL PERS	CRW	ENG	HELI	STRC LOST	\$\$\$ CTD
APRICOT	CA	FKU	300	UNK	5/18	66	2	8	0	0	NR

### OUTLOOK:

**Weather Discussion:** High pressure will be building over the Southwest for decreasing winds. A southeast flow aloft over Alaska is continuing to bring periodic weather systems with showers and a few thunderstorms.

Geographic Area Weather	High Temperatures	Minimum Relative Humidity	Wind
<b>Southwest</b> Partly cloudy to mostly sunny. Isolated showers and thunderstorms west TX plains.	55 to 75 mountains, 75 to 95 lower elevations.	8 to 15% lowlands of southern AZ, southern NM and southwest TX; 20 to 35% remainder.	SW 5 to 15 mph, except NE 5 to 15 in the TX panhandle.
<b>Southern California</b> Mostly sunny.	65 to 80 mountains. 70 to 85 valleys. 80 to 90 upper deserts. 90 to 100 lower deserts.	15 to 30%.	Southwest 5 to 15 mph.



[http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/dsp\\_sixminutes.php](http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/dsp_sixminutes.php)

### HELICOPTER PERFORMANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS

Certain helicopter missions push the limits of the aircraft's performance capabilities. Items that reduce the effectiveness and increase the risk of the mission include weight, temperature, altitude, and visibility.

- Helicopter missions that transport external loads increase risk.
- Helicopters reach their maximum performance capabilities as temperature and/or altitude increase.
- All helicopters have different maximum performance capabilities, so be aware of the capabilities of the specific helicopter that you are working with.
- Low-level helicopter operations often occur in heavy smoke where hazards (e.g., trees, snags, antennas, visibility, turbulence, and other aircraft) increase the risk level significantly.
- Determine the risk level for every mission. Is the risk level acceptable? Can the risk be mitigated? If the risk is not acceptable or it cannot be mitigated, then the mission should not be flown.
- A large part of the success of a helicopter mission is the result of good communications between the pilot and the user on the ground.
- Accurate target and hazard descriptions are essential to a safe mission. Locate this information and relay it to the pilot. Things to consider in the target description include:
  - Have you considered what the target would look like from the air?
  - Are you located where the pilot can see you?
  - Do you have a signal mirror?
  - Are you using cardinal directions or clock directions in relation to the track of the aircraft?
  - What is the wind direction? Provide this information to the pilot.
  - Are all firefighters clear of the drop area?
  - Is there a safer way to carry out an effective suppression action?

**FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES					1		1
	ACRES					0		0
Northwest	FIRES	1						1
	ACRES	1						1
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES					4		4
	ACRES					2		2
Northern Rockies	FIRES	2				2		4
	ACRES	1				0		1
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES		1					1
	ACRES		1					1
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES	7			1		2	10
	ACRES	5			0		2,051	2,056
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES					9		9
	ACRES					4		4
Southern Area	FIRES					2		2
	ACRES					1		1
TOTAL	FIRES	10	1	0	1	18	2	32
	ACRES	7	1	0	0	7	2,051	2,066

**FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES	1	1	1		104	3	110
	ACRES	0	2	0		7,892	319	8,213
Northwest	FIRES	27	13	5		72	29	146
	ACRES	142	11	8		153	31	345
Northern California	FIRES					121	28	149
	ACRES					36	25	61
Southern California	FIRES	1	6	2	1	241	47	298
	ACRES	2	11	0	1	615	19	648
Northern Rockies	FIRES	245	3	15		76	18	357
	ACRES	4,559	136	480		1,244	1,291	7,710
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	11			10	3	25
	ACRES	790	4			130	0	924
Western Great Basin	FIRES		11	2	3	2		18
	ACRES		14	70	6	0		90
Southwest	FIRES	123	32	5	5	199	103	467
	ACRES	5,825	3,152	9,001	9	20,915	17,507	56,409
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	37	9	13	2	86	19	166
	ACRES	2,427	11	148	3	14,852	1,614	19,055
Eastern Area	FIRES	489		28	31	6,217	361	7,126
	ACRES	7,037		1,518	940	50,440	7,429	67,364
Southern Area	FIRES	154		63	8	11,815	384	12,424
	ACRES	25,660		5,035	147	130,720	10,286	171,848
TOTAL	FIRES	1,078	86	134	50	18,943	995	21,286
	ACRES	46,442	3,341	16,260	1,106	226,997	38,521	332,667

<b>Ten Year Average Fires</b>	<b>31,588</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres</b>	<b>633,752</b>

\*\*\* Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. \*\*\*

**PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YESTERDAY:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES	1						1
	ACRES	30						30
Northern California	FIRES						1	1
	ACRES						6	6
Southern California	FIRES				0			0
	ACRES				1			1
Northern Rockies	FIRES			6				6
	ACRES			565				565
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES		0				0	0
	ACRES		100				110	210
Eastern Area	FIRES					3		3
	ACRES					14		14
Southern Area	FIRES					1	3	4
	ACRES					228	345	573
TOTAL	FIRES	1	0	6	0	4	4	15
	ACRES	30	100	565	1	242	461	1,399

**PRESCRIBED FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES					3		3
	ACRES					426		426
Northwest	FIRES	17	74	33	2		145	271
	ACRES	4,086	9,328	2,054	249		8,599	24,316
Northern California	FIRES	12	15	109	21		102	259
	ACRES	188	527	18,499	1,217		7,319	27,750
Southern California	FIRES	1	4	4	3		52	64
	ACRES	1,000	473	8	1,308		2,011	4,800
Northern Rockies	FIRES	3	23	64	1	26	186	303
	ACRES	135	3,179	10,216	1	1,602	18,643	33,776
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES	1	10	4	1	12	13	41
	ACRES	1	3,454	711	11	383	2,501	7,061
Western Great Basin	FIRES		3	10				13
	ACRES		74	2,711				2,785
Southwest	FIRES	3	23	2	7		202	237
	ACRES	631	22,529	3,210	12,175		52,853	91,398
Rocky Mountain	FIRES	29	36	92	12	15	88	272
	ACRES	3,709	8,062	17,155	10,309	2,476	24,698	66,409
Eastern Area	FIRES	29		379	32	962	122	1,524
	ACRES	17,410		61,548	4,272	59,427	24,384	167,041
Southern Area	FIRES	34		133	35	323	986	1,511
	ACRES	7,180		73,084	16,044	209,819	823,921	1,130,048
TOTAL	FIRES	129	188	830	114	1,341	1,896	4,498
	ACRES	34,340	47,626	189,196	45,586	274,133	964,929	1,555,810

\*\*\* Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. \*\*\*

**WFU FIRES AND ACRES YEAR-TO-DATE:**

AREA		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern California	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Northern Rockies	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Western Great Basin	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southwest	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Rocky Mountain	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Eastern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
Southern Area	FIRES							0
	ACRES							0
TOTAL	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**\*\*\* Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments. \*\*\***

**CANADA FIRES AND HECTARES:**

PROVINCES	FIRES YESTERDAY	HECTARES YESTERDAY	FIRES YEAR-TO-DATE	HECTARES YEAR-TO-DATE
British Columbia	4	0	177	639
Yukon Territory	0	0	10	26
Alberta	1	532	395	8,982
Northwest Territory	0	0	2	301
Saskatchewan	5	0	74	2,897
Manitoba	5	4	50	1,041
Ontario	0	0	130	453
Quebec	2	1	193	212
Newfoundland	0	0	28	65
New Brunswick	0	0	173	235
Nova Scotia	0	0	143	442
Prince Edward Island	0	0	0	0
National Parks	0	0	12	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>1,387</b>	<b>15,328</b>

**RESOURCES STATUS: COMMITTED RESOURCES**

AREA	CREWS FED	CREWS ST/OT	ENGS FED	ENGS ST/OT	HELI FED	HELI ST/OT	AIRT FED	AIRT ST/OT	OVRHD FED	OVRHD ST/OT
Alaska	80	214	20	30	1	4			38	33
Northwest										
Northern California										
Southern California	1	6	4	20					1	11
Northern Rockies										
Eastern Great Basin			4							
Western Great Basin										
Southwest	14	4	9	25	3				36	20
Rocky Mountain									1	
Eastern Area									1	
Southern Area			1		1				6	
<b>Total</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>64</b>

\*\*\* NATIONAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATION CENTER \*\*\*